

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910459414903321
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Titolo	Adorno's poetics of critique / Steven Helmling
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; New York, : Continuum, 2009
ISBN	1-4725-4607-5 1-282-87068-8 9786612870682 0-8264-4084-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (210 p.)
Collana	Continuum studies in continental philosophy
Disciplina	193
Soggetti	Critical theory
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [187]-193) and index
Nota di contenuto	Cathecting philosophy -- Rewriting the dialectic -- Writing it new -- Narrative and its discontents Introduction: Adorno's Poetics of Critique -- 1. Cathecting Philosophy -- 2. Rewriting the Dialectic -- 3. Writing it New -- 4. Narrative and its Discontents -- Bibliography -- Index --
Sommario/riassunto	Adorno's Poetics of Critique is a critical study of the Marxist culture-critic Theodor W. Adorno, a founding member of the Frankfurt school and widely regarded today as its most brilliant exponent. Steven Helmling is centrally concerned with Adorno's notoriously difficult writing, a feature most commentators acknowledge only to set it aside on the way to an expository account of 'what Adorno is saying'. By contrast, Adorno's complex writing is the central focus of this study, which includes detailed analysis of Adorno's most complex texts, in particular his most famous and complicated work, co-authored with Max Horkheimer, Dialectic of Enlightenment. Helmling argues that Adorno's key motifs - dialectic, concept, negation, immanent critique, constellation - are prescriptions not merely for critical thinking, but also for critical writing. For Adorno the efficacy of critique is conditioned on how the writing of critique is written. Both in theory and in practice, Adorno urges a 'poetics of critique' that is every bit as critical as anything else in his 'critical theory'.

